Application No.: 10/598,073 17596 (BOT)

Fernandez-Salas, E., et al., Botulinum Toxin Screening Assays

## AMENDMENTS

## Amendments to the Claims

- (Currently amended) A cell-based method of detecting BoNT/A activity, the method comprising the steps of:
  - a) contacting a sample to a cell comprising an exogenous FGFR3 and an endogenous SNAP-25, wherein said cell is genetically engineered to express a nucleic acid molecule encoding said FGFR3; and

wherein said-contacted cell is capable of BoNT/A intoxication; and

- b) detecting the presence of BoNT/A activity of said-contacted cell relative to a control cell, wherein the presence of endogenous SNAP-25 cleavage product from said-contacted cell is indicative of BoNT/A activity.
- (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said cell transiently contains <u>said</u> an
  exegence FGFR3 encoding nucleic acid molecule, said transiently containing cell being
  capable of BoNT/A intoxication and detecting the presence of BoNT/A activity.
- (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said cell stably contains said an exegence FGFR3 encoding nucleic acid molecule.
- 4. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said FGFR3 is a mammalian FGFR3.
- (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein said mammalian FGFR3 is a human FGFR3.
- (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein said mammalian FGFR3 is a bovine FGFR3.
- (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein said mammalian FGFR3 is a mouse FGFR3

- 8. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 4, wherein said mammalian FGFR3 is a rat FGFR3.
- 9. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said FGFR3 is a bird FGFR3.
- 10. (Withdrawal) The method according to Claim 9, wherein said bird FGFR3 is a chicken FGFR3.
- 11. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said FGFR3 is an amphibian FGFR3.
- 12. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said amphibian FGFR3 is a frog FGFR3
- 13. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said amphibian FGFR3 is a newt FGFR3.
- 14. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said FGFR3 is a fish FGFR3.
- 15. (Withdrawal) The method according to Claim 15, wherein said fish FGFR3 is a zebrafish FGFR3
- 16. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said cell further contains a G1b polysialoganglioside.
- 17. (Original) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said polysialoganglioside is selected from the group consisting of GD1a, GD1b, GD3, GQ1b, or GT1b.
- 18. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said cell is a neuronal cell.
- 19. (Original) The method according to Claim 18, wherein said neuronal cell is a primary neuronal cell.

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 (Original) The method according to Claim 18, wherein said neuronal cell is an immortalized neuronal cell.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) The method according to Claim 18, wherein said neuronal cell is selected from the group consisting of a neuroblastoma cell, a neuronal hybrid cell, a spinal cord cell, a central nervous system cell, a cerebral cortex cell, a dorsal root ganglion cell, a hippocampal cell and a pheochromocytoma cell.

 (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said cell is a non-neuronal cell said non-neuronal cell expressing an endogenous SNAP-25.

24. (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 23, wherein said non-neuronal cell is a primary non-neuronal cell.

 (Withdrawn) The method according to Claim 23, wherein said non-neuronal cell is an immortalized non-neuronal cell.

26-27. (Canceled)

28. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of a purified BoNT/A, a partially purified BoNT/A or unpurified BoNT/A.

 (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of a bulk BoNT/A, a formulated BoNT/A, a cosmetics BoNT/A formulation or a clinical BoNT/A formulation.

30. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sample is a recombinant BoNT/A.

31. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sample is selected from the group consisting of a raw food, a cooked food, a partially cooked food or a processed food.

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- 32. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sample is a sample taken from a mammal.
- 33. (Original) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said mammalian sample is selected from the group consisting of a tissue, a saliva, an excretion or a feces.
- 34-78. (Canceled).